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CIA may extend its services to businessmen

By United Press International

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CIA director Stansfield Turner says his agency is ready to expand intelligence activities to nonmilitary areas, providing its services to business and giving taxpayers "a better return on their investment."

Prior to speaking recently to the Economic Club of Detroit, Mr. Turner told reporters the CIA is increasing its collection of economic and political data that could be of value to businessmen and other nongovernmental groups.

"We want to share what information we collect when it can be unclassified," he told a news conference. "For example, there is economic and political information that we can collect that would be of value to American businessmen."

"The CIA can be open in only one direction — sharing information. The more you release, the less you have to protect. And it gives the taxpayers a better return on their investment."

Mr. Turner said the Soviet Union, while concentrating heavily on maintaining an extensive spy network, has fallen seriously behind the United States in the technical aspects of intelligence.

He said satellites and other devices have enhanced the agency's ability to gather information worldwide, but have not reduced the CIA's need for personnel.

"We now have an increased demand for the human element," he said. "We use the technology to collect information, but we need the traditional human agent to know what someone's plans and intentions are."